

ENID SOCCER CLUB

PLAYING RULES

July 2, 2007

Section I. Playing Time

A. Recreational Youth Players

1. All players in attendance at a match must play at least half the game except for health or disciplinary reasons.
2. For Enid Soccer Club (ESC) league games, coaches shall notify in writing the referee and the opposing coach before the match starts, if a player will not play at least half the match. The notice will become part of the ESC game report.
3. Violations of 1 or 2 above are handled according to ESC Administrative Regulations Section VII.

B. All Select or Classic Players. Playing time is at the discretion of the coach. It is highly recommended that each player play at least one-quarter of the match for player development.

C. A player receiving a red card will not be allowed to play in his/her very next game.

D. A player receiving a subsequent red card during a season will not be allowed to play in a game until he or she has appeared before the Board of Directors.

Section II. ESC games are played and officiated according to Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Laws of the Game and Rules of the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA). Exceptions are allowed below.

Section III. **Exceptions for Recreational Ages U6:**

Law 1 – The Field:

- A. The field of play must be rectangular with the length of the touchline greater than the length of the goal line.
- B. Length – A minimum of 20 yards and a maximum of 30 yards.
- C. Width – A minimum of 15 yards and a maximum of 25 yards.
- D. Field Markings – distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
 - Halfway line
 - Center circle (if marked) with a 4-yard radius
 - Center mark
 - Four corner arcs (if marked) with a 1-yard radius

- Goal Area: None.
- Penalty Area: None.

E. Flag posts – Not required. Cones may be used.

F. Goals – Maximum goal width is 18 feet and the maximum height is 6 feet. Goals may be smaller.

G. Both teams will occupy the north or west side of the field as appropriate. Spectators from both teams will occupy the south or east sideline.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size 3.

Law 3 – Number of Players

- A. Each team will play with 3 players on the field at a time. There are no goalkeepers. **A player in a defensive position in front of the goal is not considered a goalkeeper as long as the player does not attempt to handle the ball with his or her hands.**
- B. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited.
- C. Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
- D. Team rosters should have a minimum of 4 players and a maximum of 6 players.
- E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4 – Player's Equipment: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.
- B. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – Referee: One coach from each team will act as a referee/guide. All rule infractions will be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – Assistant Referee: None.

Law 7 – Duration of the Game:

- A. The game will be divided into 4 equal 8-minute quarters.
- B. There shall be a 2-minute break between the first and second quarters and between the third and fourth quarters. The second and fourth quarters are started with an indirect free kick by the team last in possession, unless play stopped naturally around the end of the quarter. For example, if the ball goes across the touchline and time runs out in the first quarter, start the second quarter with a **throw-in**/kick-in for the team that would have normally done so.
- C. There shall be a halftime interval of 5 minutes. The second half is started with a kickoff from the center spot.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA except all opponents of the team taking the kickoff are 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- A. All fouls result in a direct free kick with opponents 4 yards away.
- B. The game official must explain ALL infringements to the offending player.
- C. No cards are shown for misconduct.
- D. If a player is being too rambunctious, the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution for that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.
- E. All slide tackles will result in a direct free kick for the opposing team.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA except all kicks are direct with opponents at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick: None.

Law 15 – The Throw-in (either of the following methods may be used):

A. Conform to FIFA except an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once. The game official shall explain the proper method before allowing the second attempt.

B. Instead of a throw-in, a ball that completely crosses the touchline may be put into play with a kick-in at that spot by the team who did not touch the ball last. A kick-in is a direct free kick with opponents at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: The goal kick should be taken within 2-3 yards of the goal line anywhere across the width of the field of play at the nearest point from where the ball was retrieved. Opposing players must be 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Section IV. **Exceptions for Recreational Ages U7 and U8.**

Law 1 – The Field:

- A. The field of play must be rectangular with the length of the touchline greater than the length of the goal line.
- B. Length – A minimum of 25 yards and a maximum of 35 yards.

- C. Width – A minimum of 20 yards and a maximum of 30 yards.
- D. Field Markings – distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
- Halfway line
 - Center circle with a 4-yard radius
 - Center mark
 - Four corner arcs with a 1-yard radius
 - Goal Area: 3 yards from the inside of each goal post and 3 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel to the goal line.
 - Penalty Area: None
- E. Flag posts – Not required. Cones may be used.
- F. Goals – Maximum goal width is 18 feet and the maximum height is 6 feet. Goals may be smaller.
- G. Both teams will occupy the north or west side of the field as appropriate. Spectators from both teams will occupy the south or east sideline.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size 3.

Law 3 – Number of Players

- A. Each team will play with 4 players on the field at a time. There are no goalkeepers. **A player in a defensive position in front of the goal is not considered a goalkeeper as long as the player does not attempt to handle the ball with his or her hands.**
- B. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited.
- C. Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
- D. Team rosters should have a minimum of 6 players and a maximum of 8 players.
- E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4 – Player's Equipment: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- A. Footwear: Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes.
- B. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – Referee: May be a registered referee, an associate referee, a coach, an assistant coach, or a parent. All rule infractions will be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – Assistant Referee: None.

Law 7 – Duration of the Game:

- A. The game will be divided into 4 equal 12-minute quarters.
- B. There shall be a 2-minute break between the first and second quarters and between the third and fourth quarters. The second and fourth quarters are started with an indirect free kick by the team last in possession, unless play stopped naturally around the end of the quarter. For example, if the ball goes across the touchline and time runs out in the first quarter, start the second quarter with a throw-in for the team that would have normally done so.
- C. There shall be a halftime interval of 5 minutes. The second half is started with a kickoff from the center spot.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA except all opponents of the team taking the kickoff are 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the following exceptions:

- A. All fouls result in a direct free kick with opponents 4 yards away.
- B. The game official must explain ALL infringements to the offending player.
- C. No cards are shown for misconduct.
- D. If a player is being too rambunctious, the game official will ask the coach to make a substitution for that player to give the child a chance to calm down before returning to play.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA except all kicks are direct with opponents at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick: None.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA except an improperly performed throw-in can be retaken once. The game official shall explain the proper method before allowing the second attempt.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain outside the goal area and at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 4 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Section IV. **Exceptions for Recreational Ages U10.**

Law 1 – The Field:

- A. The field of play must be rectangular with the length of the touchline greater than the length of the goal line.
- B. Length – A minimum of 45 yards and a maximum of 60 yards.
- C. Width – A minimum of 35 yards and a maximum of 45 yards.
- D. Field Markings – distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
 - Halfway line
 - Center circle with a 8-yard radius
 - Center mark
 - Four corner arcs with a 1-yard radius
 - Goal Area: Conform to FIFA.
 - Penalty Area: 14 yards from the inside of each goal post and 14 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel to the goal line.
 - Penalty Mark: 10 yards from the goal line centered on the goal.
 - Penalty Arc: An arc of a circle with a radius of 8 yards from the penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.
- E. Flag posts – Conform to FIFA
- F. Goals – Maximum goal width is 18 feet and the maximum height is 6 feet. Goals may be smaller. Portable goals may only be used if they are securely anchored to the ground.
- G. Both teams will occupy the north or west side of the field as appropriate. Spectators from both teams will occupy the south or east sideline.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size 4.

- 3. Number of Players
 - A. Each team will play with a maximum of 6 and a minimum of 5 players on the field at a time, one of which is a goalkeeper.
 - B. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited. Substitutions by either team are allowed for an injury to a player from either team, after a foul, or prior to a goal kick, a corner kick, a throw-in, or a kick-off.
 - C. Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.
 - D. Team rosters should have a minimum of 9 players and a maximum of 11 players.
 - E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4 – Player’s Equipment: Conform to FIFA except non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions; however, uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – Referee: May be a registered referee, a coach, an assistant coach, or a parent. All rule infractions will be briefly explained to the offending player.

Law 6 – Assistant Referee: Not required, may use club linesmen/women if desired.

Law 7 – Duration of the Game: Conform to FIFA except that the game will be divided into 2 equal halves of 25 minutes. There shall be a halftime interval of 5 minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA except all opponents of the team taking the kickoff are 8 yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: None.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Section V. **Exceptions for Recreational Ages U12.**

Law 1 – The Field:

- A. The field of play must be rectangular with the length of the touchline greater than the length of the goal line.
- B. Length – A minimum of 60 yards and a maximum of 80 yards.
- C. Width – A minimum of 45 yards and a maximum of 55 yards.
- D. Field Markings – distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
 - Halfway line
 - Center circle with a 8-yard radius
 - Center mark

- Four corner arcs with a 1-yard radius
- Goal Area: Conform to FIFA.
- Penalty Area: 14 yards from the inside of each goal post and 14 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel to the goal line.
- Penalty Mark: 10 yards from the goal line centered on the goal.
- Penalty Arc: An arc of a circle with a radius of 8 yards from the penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

E. Flag posts – Conform to FIFA

F. Goals – Maximum goal width is 18 feet and the maximum height is 6 feet. Goals may be smaller. Portable goals may only be used if they are securely anchored to the ground.

G. Both teams will occupy the north or west side of the field as appropriate. Spectators from both teams will occupy the south or east sideline.

Law 2 – The Ball: Size 4.

Law 3 – Number of Players

A. Each team will play with a maximum of 8 and a minimum of 7 players on the field at a time, one of which is a goalkeeper.

B. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage of play and are unlimited. Substitutions by either team are allowed for an injury to a player from either team, after a foul or offside, or prior to a goal kick, a corner kick, a throw-in, or a kick-off.

C. Each player SHALL play a minimum of 50% of the total playing time.

D. Team rosters should have a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 13 players.

E. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4 – Player's Equipment: Conform to FIFA except non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions; however, uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5 – Referee: Registered referee. A referee shall not officiate as a center referee for the U12 age group if he is a U12 head coach, assistant coach, or player unless he has the written approval of both coaches of the game.

Law 6 – Assistant Referee: Registered referee or club linesmen/women.

Law 7 – Duration of the Game: Conform to FIFA except that the game will be divided into 2 equal halves of 30 minutes. There shall be a halftime interval of 5 minutes.

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA except all opponents of the team taking the kickoff are 8 yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9 – Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 – Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 – Offside: Conform to FIFA.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA.

Law 13 – Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 15 – The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA.

Law 17 – The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA except that opponents must remain at least 8 yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Section VI. Changes to playing Rules

- A. Changes to ESC Playing Rules are made by a simple majority vote at either membership or scheduled board meetings.
- B. Coaches will receive written notification within one week of rule changes made during the season.